

## Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-10 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /069 W

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R 280902Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1711

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, KS

SUBJECT: TRIAL OF REV KIM KWAN-SUK

REF: SEOUL 5504

1. SCHEDULED JULY 25 SESSION OF TRIAL OF NCCC-K  
GEN SEC KIM AND CO-DEFENDENTS WAS POSTPONED BY JUDGE  
UNTIL AUGUST 2 AT REQUEST OF PROSECUTOR.

2. NCCC-K SECRETARY BELIEVES THAT PROSECUTOR, WHO  
HAD NO REAL CASE TO BEGIN WITH, NOW STALLING FOR TIME  
UNTIL FINAL DECISION CONCERNING REV. KIM AND OTHERS  
CAN BE MADE BY HIGHER UPS.

3. IN DEVELOPMENT RELATED TO TRIAL OF REV. KIM, NEW  
PROTESTANT CHURCH GROUPING, WHICH PURPORTS TO REPRESENT  
19 DENOMINATIONS, HAS APPEARED. NEW GROUPING COULD BECOME RIVAL  
OF EXISTING NCCC-K. A NUMBER OF PROTESTANT RELIGIOUS  
LEADERS HAVE BEEN CRITICAL OF FACT THAT NCCC-K ALWAYS  
SEEMS TO BE IN CONFLICT WITH GOVERNMENT. QUESTIONS HAVE  
BEEN RAISED AS TO WHY, IN TIME WHEN REPUBLIC THREATENED  
BY NORTH KOREAN COMMUNISTS, NCCC-K DOESN'T SPONSOR  
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ANTI-COMMUNIST PRAYER MEETINGS AND OTHERWISE

PARTICIPATE IN BUILDING NATIONAL SECURITY. ON JULY 26, FOLLOWING MEETING IN DOWNTOWN HOTEL, GROUPING THESE LEADERS HELD PRESS CONFERENCE AT WHICH EIGHT POINT STATEMENT READ BY PRESIDENT OF LUTHERAN CHURCH IN KOREA. HIGH-LIGHTS OF STATEMENT WERE:

(A) LEADERS OF 19 DEMONINATIONS REPRESENTED BELIEVE CONSOLIDATION OF NATIONAL SECURITY TO BE THEIR PRIMARY TASK;

(B) THERE IS NO RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION IN KOREA;

(C) ANY PAST UNHAPPY EVENTS BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND THE CHURCH ARE REGRETTED.

(D) CONTRARY TO ASSERTION OF FOREIGN PRESS, MOST CLERGYMEN ARE NOT IN CONFRONTATION WITH GOVERNMENT;

(E) KOREAN CHURCH WELCOMES AID OF FOREIGN MISSIONARIES IN FINANCE AND PERSONNEL BUT WITHIN CONTEXT OF INDEPENDENCE OF KOREAN CHURCH.

4. ASSEMBLAGE ALSO ADOPTED PETITION ASKING FOR LENIENT TREATMENT FOR CLERGYMEN WHO ARE BEING TRIED, INCLUDING KIM KWAN-SOK, GEN. SEC. OF THE NCCC-K.

5. COMMENT: WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT NEW PROTESTANT GROUPING IS BEING SUPPORTED BY SEVERAL CHRISTIAN BUSINESSMEN AND ALSO HAS UNDERSTANDABLE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT. WE ANTICIPATE HIGHER LEVEL OF ACTIVITY BY THIS GROUP IN THE COMING DAYS AS IT STRIVES TO ISOLATE EXISTING NCCC-K BY PROJECTING FRESH IMAGE OF RESPONSIBILITY TO THE NATION ON PART OF PROTESTANT CHURCH LEADERS AS OPPOSED TO POLICY OF CONFRONTATION TO GOVERNMENT. CURRENT NCCC-K EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, WHICH LACKS A STRONG HEAD WITHOUT THE REV. KIM IS CONCERNED ABOUT THIS DEVELOPMENT AND IS TRYING TO DEVELOP A NEW STRATEGY OF ITS OWN.  
ERICSON

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PINT, PINS, KS, (KIM KWAN-SUK)  
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